The City's General Plan

On March 10, 2008 the San Diego City Council unanimously approved a comprehensive update to the City's General Plan. The plan sets out a long-range vision and policy framework for how the City should plan for projected growth and development, provide public services, and maintain the qualities that define San Diego over the next 20 to 30 years. San Diego's General Plan was last updated comprehensively in 1979 – a time when approximately half of the City's developable acreage was still vacant. Since less than four percent of the City's land remains vacant and available for new development, the General Plan policies represent a shift in focus from how to develop vacant land to how to design infill development and reinvest in existing communities to support long term growth. It has a strong sustainability focus through policies addressing transit/land use coordination; climate change; healthy, walkable communities; green buildings; clean technology industries; water and energy conservation and management; and urban forestry. In addition, the General Plan features protections for prime industrial lands; strategies for providing urban parks; "toolboxes" to implement mobility strategies; and policies designed to further the preservation of San Diego's historical and cultural resources. The plan was structured to work in concert with the City's community plans.

The General Plan update incorporates the City of Villages strategy to focus growth into mixed-use villages that are pedestrian-friendly districts, of different scales, linked to the transit system. Each village will be unique to the community in which it is located, yet all villages will be pedestrian-friendly, and characterized by inviting, accessible and attractive streets and public spaces. Individual villages will offer a variety of housing types and affordability levels. The strategy draws upon the character and strengths of San Diego's natural environment, distinctive neighborhoods, and activity centers that together form the City as a whole.

The City developed the General Plan within the context of state requirements, regional plans and population forecasts, and the issues and needs unique to the City. The General Plan is comprised of an introductory Strategic Framework section and the following elements: Land Use and Community Planning; Mobility; Economic Prosperity; Public Facilities, Services and Safety; Urban Design; Recreation; Historic Preservation; Conservation; and Noise. The Housing Element update was adopted separately in 2006. The policies within each element of the General Plan were developed with ten guiding principles in mind. These principles are to achieve:

- 1. An open space network formed by parks, canyons, river valleys, habitats, beaches, and ocean;
- 2. Diverse residential communities formed by the open space network;
- 3. Compact and walkable mixed-use villages of different scales within communities;
- 4. Employment centers for a strong economy;
- 5. An integrated regional transportation network of walkways, bikeways, transit, roadways, and freeways that efficiently link communities and villages to each other and to employment centers:
- 6. High quality, affordable, and well-maintained public facilities to serve the City's population, workers, and visitors;
- 7. Historic districts and sites that respect our heritage;
- 8. Balanced communities that offer opportunities for all San Diegans and share citywide responsibilities;
- 9. A clean and sustainable environment; and,
- 10. A high aesthetic standard.

The Public Facilities, Services and Safety Element of the General Plan includes policies on the prioritization and provision of public facilities and services, evaluation of new growth, guidelines for implementing a financing strategy, and guidelines for the provision of specific facilities. This element discusses City challenges, including a public facilities deficit, and calls for facilities deficiencies to be remedied through diverse funding resources.

Implementation of the General Plan is being accomplished through a broad range of legislative and regulatory actions that influence private and public development. The General Plan Action Plan, currently in the hearing process, identifies measures and timeframes for implementing General Plan policies. The Action Plan highlights eight key initiatives which are critical to General Plan implementation, as follows: Community Plan Updates, Climate Change Initiatives. Water Supply and Conservation Efforts, Land Development Code (LDC) Amendments, Public Facilities Finance Strategy, Economic Development Strategic Plan, Parks Master Plan, and Historic Preservation Incentives. In addition, the General Plan is consistent with the Regional Comprehensive Plan and will contribute to the San Diego Association of Governments' efforts to create a Sustainable Communities Strategy that meets anticipated Senate Bill 375 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

Community Plans

The City's community plans contain additional detailed planning guidance, and are a part of the Land Use Element of the General Plan. Community plans establish specific recommendations and objectives in a given community for future land uses and public improvements. The community plan provides a long range physical development guideline for elected officials and citizens engaged in community development. Citizen involvement has been a long-standing concept in the City of San Diego. In the 1960s and 1970s, the City Council adopted policies that established and recognized community planning groups as formal mechanisms for community input in the decision making processes. Community planning groups provide citizens with an opportunity for involvement in advising the City Council, the Planning Commission, and other decision makers on development projects, community plan amendments, rezoning projects, and public facilities. The recommendations of the planning groups are integral components of the planning process.

The general and community plans are policy documents, which require regulatory tools and programs to help implement their goals and standards. The implementation tools for planning documents include the Municipal Code, the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), zoning, Neighborhood Code Compliance, facilities financing plans, and redevelopment plans. These regulations and programs help guide land use, development, and design.

CIP Conformance to the City's General Plan and Community Plans

This year's capital improvement projects were reviewed for conformance with the 2008 General Plan. The vast majority of capital improvement projects are consistent with the General Plan, and relevant community and public facilities financing plans. Those few projects that are not consistent with the relevant community plan(s) will include a community plan amendment as part of the approval process, or the issue will be addressed as a part of a community plan update.

Community Planning Areas



Community Planning Areas by Council District



Community Planning Areas and Policing Neighborhoods

The City of San Diego has several neighborhood policing areas. Each community planning area consists of one or more neighborhoods under a Police Service Area. The following list shows the neighborhoods sorted by community planning area. Some policing neighborhoods extend beyond a single community planning area; in these cases, the neighborhood is listed more than once.

Balboa Park (BP) Greater Golden Hill (GGH)

Balboa Park Golden Hill Barrio Logan (BL) South Park

Barrio Logan Greater North Park (GNP)

Black Mountain Ranch (BMR)

Black Mountain

Burlingame

South Park

Carmel Mountain Ranch (CMR)

North Park

Carmel Mountain University Heights

Rancho Bernardo Kearny Mesa (KM)
Carmel Valley (CV) Kearny Mesa

Carmel Valley

Serra Mesa

Centre City (CC)

Barrio Logan

Core-Columbia

Cortez

La Jolla (LJ)

La Jolla

Pacific Beach

Torrey Pines

Cortez Torrey Pines
East Village Linda Vista (LV)
Gaslamp Linda Vista
Harborview Morena

Horton Plaza Mid-City (MC)
Little Italy Adams North

Marina Azalea/Hollywood Park
Park West Castle

Clairemont Mesa (CM)

Cherokee Point

Bay Ho
Chollas Creek
Bay Park
Colina del Sol
Clairemont Mesa East
Corridor
Chimmant Mara Wart

Clairemont Mesa West Darnall
North Clairemont El Cerrito

College Area (CA) Fairmount Park
College Area East Fairmount Village
College Area West Fox Canyon

Talmadge Islenair

Del Mar Mesa (DMM) Kensington
Carmel Valley Normal Heights
Torrey Highlands Oak Park

East Elliott (EE) Ridgeview/Webster

Tierrasanta Rolando
Fairbanks Country Club (FCC) Swan Canyon
North City Talmadge
Teralta East

Mid-City (MC) (continued) Pacific Highlands Ranch (PHR) Teralta West Carmel Valley Midway/Pacific Highway (MPH) North City Midway District **Torrey Highlands** Mission Hills Peninsula (PEN) Point Loma Heights La Playa Miramar Ranch North (MRN) Loma Portal Miramar Ranch North Point Loma Heights Roseville/Fleet Ridge Mira Mesa (MM) Sunset Cliffs Miramar Mira Mesa Wooded Area Sorrento Valley Rancho Bernardo (SPV) Mission Bay Park (MBP) Rancho Bernardo Mission Beach Rancho Encantada (RE) Ocean Beach Rancho Encantada Mission Beach (MB) Rancho Penasquitos (RP) Mission Beach Rancho Penasquitos Sabre Springs (SS) Mission Valley (MV) Grantville Sabre Springs Mission Valley East San Pasqual Valley (SPV) Mission Valley West Rancho Bernardo Serra Mesa San Pasqual Navajo (NAV) San Ysidro (SY) Allied Gardens Border Del Cerro San Ysidro Scripps Miramar Ranch (SMR) Grantville Lake Murray Miramar Ranch North San Carlos Scripps Ranch Serra Mesa (SM) Ocean Beach (OB) Birdland Ocean Beach Point Loma Heights Serra Mesa Old San Diego (OSD) Skyline-Paradise Hills (SPH) Midway District **Bay Terraces** Old Town Jamacha-Lomita Otay Mesa (OM) Paradise Hills Ocean Crest Skyline Otay Mesa Southeastern San Diego (SSD) Otay Mesa/Nestor (OMN) **Grant Hill** Egger Highlands Logan Heights Nestor Mountain View Otay Mesa West Mount Hope Palm City Shelltown Pacific Beach (PB) Sherman Heights La Jolla Southcrest Pacific Beach Stockton

Sub Area 2 (North City Future Urbanizing

Area) (FUA)

North City

Tijuana River Valley (TRV)

Egger Highlands

Nestor

Tijuana River Valley

Tierrasanta (TIR)

Grantville

Tierrasanta

Torrey Highlands (TH)

Torrey Highlands

Torrey Hills (THS)

Carmel Valley

Rancho Penaquitos

Torrey Pines (TP)

Del Mar Heights

Torrey Preserve

Torrey Pines

University (NUC)

La Jolla Village

Torrey Preserve

Torrey Preserv

Torrey Pines

Sorrento Valley

University City

Uptown (UPT)

Hillcrest

Midtown

Mission Hills

Park West

University Heights

Via de la Valle (VV)

North City